

# Signed Shape Tilings of Squares <sup>\*</sup>

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## Abstract

Let  $T$  be a tile made up of finitely many rectangles whose corners have rational coordinates and whose sides are parallel to the coordinate axes. This paper gives necessary and sufficient conditions for a square to be tilable by finitely many  $\mathbb{Q}$ -weighted tiles with the same shape as  $T$ , and necessary and sufficient conditions for a square to be tilable by finitely many  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tiles with the same shape as  $T$ . The main tool we use is a variant of F.W. Barnes's algebraic theory of brick packing, which converts tiling problems into problems in commutative algebra.

## 1 Introduction

In [3] Dehn proved that an  $a \times b$  rectangle  $R$  can be tiled by finitely many nonoverlapping squares if and only if  $a/b$  is rational. More generally, suppose we allow the squares to have weights from  $\mathbb{Z}$ . An arrangement of weighted squares is a tiling of  $R$  if the sum of the weights of the squares covering a region is 1 inside of  $R$  and 0 outside. Dehn's argument applies in this more general setting, and shows that  $R$  has a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tiling by squares if and only if  $a/b$  is rational. In [4] this result is generalized to give necessary and sufficient conditions for a rectangle  $R$  to be tilable by  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted rectangles with particular shapes. In this paper we consider a related question: Given a tile  $T$  in the plane made up of finitely many weighted rectangles, is there a weighted tiling of a square by tiles with the same shape as  $T$ ?

We define a *rectangle* in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  to be a product  $[b_1, b_2) \times [c_1, c_2)$  of half-open intervals, with  $b_1 < b_2$  and  $c_1 < c_2$ . Let  $A$  be a commutative ring with unity. An *A-weighted tile* is represented by a finite  $A$ -linear combination  $L = a_1 R_1 + \cdots + a_n R_n$  of disjoint rectangles. Associated to each such  $L$  there is a function  $f_L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow A$  which is supported on  $\cup R_i$

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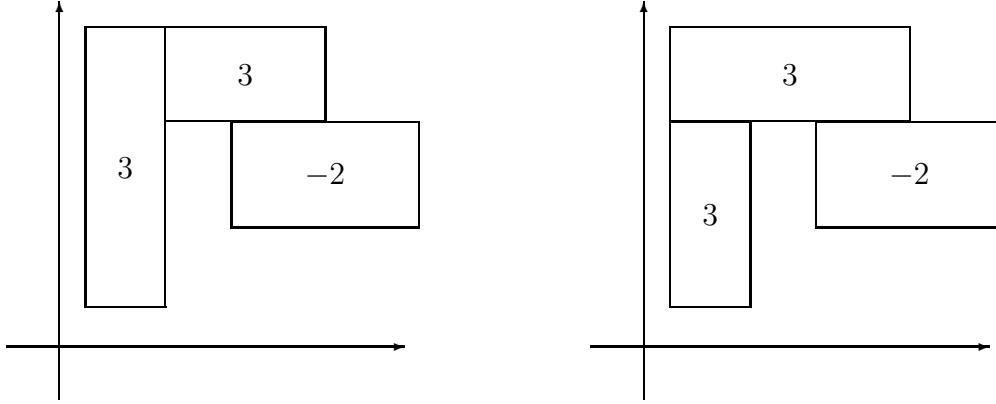


Figure 1: Two rectangle decompositions of the same  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tile.

and whose value on  $R_i$  is  $a_i$ . We say that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  represent the same tile if  $f_{L_1} = f_{L_2}$ . An example of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tile is given in Figure 1. We may form the sum  $T_1 + T_2$  of two weighted tiles  $T_1, T_2$  by superposing them in the natural way. For  $a \in A$  the tile  $aT$  is formed from  $T$  by multiplying all the weights of  $T$  by  $a$ . The set of all  $A$ -weighted tiles forms an  $A$ -module under these operations.

Let  $U$  be an  $A$ -weighted tile and let  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be a set of  $A$ -weighted tiles. We say that the set  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$   $A$ -tiles  $U$  if there are weights  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$  and tiles  $\tilde{T}_1, \dots, \tilde{T}_n$ , each of which is a translation of some  $T_{\lambda_i}$ , such that  $a_1\tilde{T}_1 + \dots + a_n\tilde{T}_n = U$ . Note that we are allowed to use as many translated copies of each prototile  $T_\lambda$  as we need, but we are not allowed to rotate or reflect the prototiles. Given an  $A$ -weighted tile  $T$  and a real number  $\rho > 0$  we define  $T(\rho)$  to be the image of  $T$  under the rescaling  $(x, y) \mapsto (\rho x, \rho y)$ . We say that an  $A$ -weighted tile  $T'$  has the same shape as  $T$  if there exists  $\rho > 0$  such that  $T'$  is a translation of  $T(\rho)$ . We say that  $T$   $A$ -shapetiles  $U$  if  $\{T(\rho) : \rho > 0\}$   $A$ -tiles  $U$ . If  $U'$  has the same shape as  $U$  then  $T$   $A$ -shapetiles  $U'$  if and only if  $T$   $A$ -shapetiles  $U$ .

In this paper we consider tiles  $T$  constructed from rectangles whose corners have rational coordinates. We prove two main results about such tiles. First, we show that if  $T$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -weighted tile whose weighted area is not 0, then  $T$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -shapetiles a square. Second, if  $T$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tile we give necessary and sufficient conditions for  $T$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetile a square.

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## 2 Polynomials and tiling

Say that  $T$  is a *lattice tile* if  $T$  is an  $A$ -weighted tile made up of unit squares in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  whose corners are in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . We will associate a (generalized) polynomial  $f_T$  to each  $A$ -weighted lattice tile  $T$ . Our approach is similar to that used by F.W. Barnes in [2], except

that the polynomials that we construct differ from Barnes's polynomials by a factor  $(X - 1)(Y - 1)$ . Including this extra factor will allow us to generalize the construction to non-lattice tiles at the end of the section.

Our polynomials will be elements of the ring

$$A[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}] := A[X, Y, X^{-1}, Y^{-1}],$$

which is naturally isomorphic to the group ring of  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  with coefficients in  $A$ . To begin we associate the polynomial  $X^i Y^j (X - 1)(Y - 1)$  to the unit square  $S_{ij}$  with lower left corner  $(i, j) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ . Given an  $A$ -weighted lattice tile

$$T = \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} S_{ij},$$

by linearity we associate to  $T$  the polynomial

$$f_T(X, Y) = \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} X^i Y^j (X - 1)(Y - 1).$$

One consequence of this definition is that translating a tile by a vector  $(i, j) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  corresponds to multiplying its polynomial by  $X^i Y^j$ . The map  $T \mapsto f_T$  gives an isomorphism between the  $A$ -module of  $A$ -weighted lattice tiles in the plane and the principal ideal in  $A[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  generated by  $(X - 1)(Y - 1)$ .

**Example 2.1** Let  $a, b, c, d$  be integers such that  $a, b \geq 1$  and let  $T$  be the  $a \times b$  rectangle whose lower left corner is at  $(c, d)$ . Then the polynomial associated to  $T$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f_T(X, Y) &= \sum_{i=c}^{c+a-1} \sum_{j=d}^{d+b-1} X^i Y^j (X - 1)(Y - 1) \\ &= X^c Y^d (X^a - 1)(Y^b - 1). \end{aligned}$$

In section 4 we will need to work with non-lattice tiles. To represent these more general tiles systematically we introduce a new set of building blocks to play the role that the unit squares  $S_{ij}$  play in the theory of lattice tiles. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{\times}$  let  $R_{\alpha\beta}$  denote the oriented rectangle with vertices  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(\alpha, 0)$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta)$ ,  $(0, \beta)$ . Note that if exactly  $k$  of  $\alpha, \beta$  are negative then  $R_{\alpha\beta}$  is equal to  $(-1)^k$  times a translation of  $R_{|\alpha|, |\beta|}$ . We can express any rectangle in terms of the rectangles  $R_{\alpha\beta}$ :

**Example 2.2** Let  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  and let  $R'_{\alpha\beta}$  be the translation of the rectangle  $R_{\alpha\beta}$  by the vector  $(\sigma, \tau) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Then  $R'_{\alpha\beta} = R_{\alpha+\sigma, \beta+\tau} - R_{\alpha+\sigma, \tau} - R_{\sigma, \beta+\tau} + R_{\sigma, \tau}$ . In particular, we have  $S_{ij} = R_{i+1, j+1} - R_{i+1, j} - R_{i, j+1} + R_{ij}$ .

In fact the following holds:

**Lemma 2.3** *Every  $A$ -weighted tile  $T$  can be expressed uniquely as an  $A$ -linear combination of rectangles  $R_{\alpha\beta}$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{\times}$ .*

*Proof:* By Example 2.2 every rectangle is an  $A$ -linear combination of the rectangles  $R_{\alpha\beta}$ . Therefore every  $A$ -weighted tile is an  $A$ -linear combination of the  $R_{\alpha\beta}$ . Suppose

$$c_1 R_{\alpha_1\beta_1} + c_2 R_{\alpha_2\beta_2} + \cdots + c_n R_{\alpha_n\beta_n} = 0$$

is a linear relation such that the pairs  $(\alpha_i, \beta_i)$  are distinct and  $c_i \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Choose  $j$  to maximize the distance from the origin to the far corner  $(\alpha_j, \beta_j)$  of  $R_{\alpha_j\beta_j}$ . None of the other rectangles in the sum can overlap the region around  $(\alpha_j, \beta_j)$ . Since  $c_j \neq 0$ , this gives a contradiction. Therefore the set  $\{R_{\alpha\beta} : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^\times\}$  is linearly independent over  $A$ , which implies the uniqueness part of the lemma.  $\square$

In order to represent arbitrary  $A$ -weighted tiles algebraically we introduce a generalization of the polynomials  $f_T$ . Let  $A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  denote the set of “polynomials” with coefficients from  $A$  where the exponents of  $X$  and  $Y$  are allowed to be arbitrary real numbers. The natural operations of addition and multiplication make  $A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  a commutative ring with unity. The ring  $A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  is naturally isomorphic to the group ring of  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  with coefficients in  $A$ , and contains  $A[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$  as a subring.

For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^\times$  define  $f_{R_{\alpha\beta}} = (X^\alpha - 1)(Y^\beta - 1) \in A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$ . By Lemma 2.3 this definition extends linearly to give a well-defined element  $f_T \in A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  associated to any  $A$ -weighted tile  $T$ . It follows from Example 2.2 that this definition agrees with that given earlier if  $T = S_{ij}$  is a unit lattice square, and hence also if  $T$  is any lattice tile. The map  $T \mapsto f_T$  gives an isomorphism between the  $A$ -module of  $A$ -weighted tiles and an  $A$ -submodule of  $A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$ . The next lemma implies that this  $A$ -submodule is actually an ideal in  $A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$ .

**Lemma 2.4** *Let  $T$  be an  $A$ -weighted tile and let  $T'$  be the translation of  $T$  by the vector  $(\sigma, \tau) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $f_{T'} = X^\sigma Y^\tau f_T$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $R'_{\alpha\beta}$  be the translation of  $R_{\alpha\beta}$  by  $(\sigma, \tau)$ . Using Example 2.2 we get

$$f_{R'_{\alpha\beta}} = X^\sigma Y^\tau (X^\alpha - 1)(Y^\beta - 1) = X^\sigma Y^\tau f_{R_{\alpha\beta}},$$

so the lemma holds for  $T = R_{\alpha\beta}$ . Therefore by Lemma 2.3 the lemma holds for all tiles  $T$ .  $\square$

The next result gives a further relation between ideals and tiling.

**Proposition 2.5** *Let  $U$  be a tile, let  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be a collection of tiles, and let  $\tilde{I} \subset A[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  be the ideal generated by the set  $\{f_{T_\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ . Then  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$   $A$ -tiles  $U$  if and only if  $f_U \in \tilde{I}$ .*

*Proof:* We have  $f_U \in \tilde{I}$  if and only if

$$f_U(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i X^{\sigma_i} Y^{\tau_i} f_{T_{\lambda_i}}(X, Y)$$

for some  $a_i \in A$ ,  $\sigma_i, \tau_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\lambda_i \in \Lambda$ . Since  $X^{\sigma_i} Y^{\tau_i} f_{T_{\lambda_i}}(X, Y)$  is the polynomial associated to the translation of  $T_{\lambda_i}$  by the vector  $(\sigma_i, \tau_i)$ , we have  $f_U \in \tilde{I}$  if and only if  $U = a_1 \tilde{T}_1 + \cdots + a_k \tilde{T}_k$ , with  $\tilde{T}_i$  a translation of  $T_{\lambda_i}$ . Therefore  $f_U \in \tilde{I}$  if and only if  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$   $A$ -tiles  $U$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.6** *Let  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be a collection of lattice tiles, let  $I$  be the ideal in  $A[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$  generated by the set  $\{f_{T_\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ , and let  $U$  be a lattice tile such that  $f_U \in I$ . Then  $\{T_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$   $A$ -tiles  $U$ .*

The last result in this section shows what happens to  $f_T$  when we replace  $T$  by a rescaling.

**Lemma 2.7** *Let  $T$  be an  $A$ -weighted tile and let  $\rho$  be a positive real number. Then  $f_{T(\rho)} = f_T(X^\rho, Y^\rho)$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^\times$ . Then  $R_{\alpha\beta}(\rho) = R_{\rho\alpha, \rho\beta}$  and hence

$$f_{R_{\alpha\beta}(\rho)} = (X^{\rho\alpha} - 1)(Y^{\rho\beta} - 1) = f_{R_{\alpha\beta}}(X^\rho, Y^\rho).$$

Therefore the lemma holds for  $T = R_{\alpha\beta}$ . It follows from Lemma 2.3 that the lemma holds for all tiles  $T$ .  $\square$

### 3 Tiling with rational weights

This section is devoted to proving the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $T$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -weighted tile made up of rectangles whose corners all have rational coordinates. Then  $T$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -shapetiles a square if and only if the weighted area of  $T$  is not zero.*

*Proof:* It is clear that if the weighted area of  $T$  is zero then  $T$  cannot shapetile a square with nonzero area. Assume conversely that  $T$  has nonzero weighted area. By rescaling and translation we may assume that  $T$  is a lattice tile in the first quadrant. Let  $T(\mathbb{N})$  denote the set  $\{T(k) : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of positive integer rescalings of  $T$ . To complete the proof of Theorem 3.1 it suffices to prove that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -tiles a square. First we will prove that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{C}$ -tiles a square; from this it will follow easily that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -tiles a square.

Since  $T$  is a lattice tile in the first quadrant,  $f_T \in \mathbb{Q}[X, Y]$  is a polynomial in the ordinary sense. We begin by interpreting the hypothesis that the weighted area of  $T$  is nonzero in terms of  $f_T$ .

**Lemma 3.2** *There is a polynomial  $f_T^* \in \mathbb{Q}[X, Y]$  such that*

$$f_T(X, Y) = (X - 1)(Y - 1)f_T^*(X, Y).$$

*Moreover, the weighted area of  $T$  is equal to  $f_T^*(1, 1)$ , and hence  $f_T^*(1, 1) \neq 0$ .*

*Proof:* Since the polynomial associated to the unit square  $S_{ij}$  is

$$f_{S_{ij}}(X, Y) = X^i Y^j (X - 1)(Y - 1),$$

the lemma holds for  $S_{ij}$ . It follows by linearity that the lemma holds for all lattice tiles in the first quadrant.  $\square$

Let  $I$  denote the ideal in  $\mathbb{C}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  generated by  $\{f_{T(k)} : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and let

$$g_l(X, Y) = (X^l - 1)(Y^l - 1)$$

be the polynomial associated to an  $l \times l$  square with lower left corner  $(0, 0)$ . To show that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{C}$ -tiles a square it suffices by Corollary 2.6 to show that  $g_l \in I$  for some positive integer  $l$ . In order to get information about  $I$  we consider the set  $V(I) \subset \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times$  of common zeros of the elements of  $I$ . The set  $V(I)$  is essentially the union of the lines  $X = 1$  and  $Y = 1$  with the “shape variety” of  $T(\mathbb{N})$  as defined by Barnes [2, §3].

We wish to determine which points  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times$  might be in  $V(I)$ . Let  $m$  be the  $X$ -degree of  $f_T$ , let  $n$  be the  $Y$ -degree of  $f_T$ , and define  $\Upsilon \subset \mathbb{C}^\times$  by

$$\Upsilon = \{\zeta \in \mathbb{C}^\times : \zeta^k = 1 \text{ for some } 1 \leq k \leq 2mn\}.$$

**Lemma 3.3**  $V(I) \subset (\mathbb{C}^\times \times \Upsilon) \cup (\Upsilon \times \mathbb{C}^\times)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $(\alpha, \beta) \in V(I)$ , and suppose neither  $\alpha$  nor  $\beta$  is in  $\Upsilon$ . By Lemma 2.7 and Lemma 3.2 we have

$$0 = f_{T(k)}(\alpha, \beta) = f_T(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = (\alpha^k - 1)(\beta^k - 1)f_T^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k)$$

for all  $k \geq 1$ . Since  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  aren't in  $\Upsilon$  this implies  $f_T^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 2mn$ . Therefore by Lemma 3.4 below there exist  $c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f_T^*(X^c, X^d) = 0$ . It follows that  $f_T^*(1, 1) = 0$ , contrary to Lemma 3.2. We conclude that if  $(\alpha, \beta) \in V(I)$  then at least one of  $\alpha, \beta$  must be in  $\Upsilon$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $K$  be a field and let  $f^* \in K[X, Y]$  be a nonzero polynomial with  $X$ -degree  $m - 1$  and  $Y$ -degree  $n - 1$ . Assume there are  $\alpha, \beta \in K^\times$  such that*

1.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are not  $k$ th roots of 1 for any  $1 \leq k \leq 2mn$ , and
2.  $f^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq k \leq 2mn$ .

*Then there exist relatively prime integers  $c, d$  with  $1 \leq c \leq n - 1$  and  $1 \leq |d| \leq m - 1$  such that  $f^*(X^c, X^d) = 0$ .*

*Proof:* Define an  $mn \times mn$  matrix  $M$  whose columns are indexed by pairs  $(i, j)$  with  $0 \leq i \leq m - 1$  and  $0 \leq j \leq n - 1$  by letting the  $k$ th entry in the  $(i, j)$  column of  $M$  be  $\alpha^{ik}\beta^{jk}$ . Since  $f^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq mn$ , the coefficients of  $f^*$  give a nontrivial element of the nullspace of  $M$ . Since  $M$  is essentially a Vandermonde matrix this implies

$$0 = \det(M) = \alpha^{nm(m-1)/2} \beta^{mn(n-1)/2} \cdot \prod_{(i,j) < (i',j')} (\alpha^{i'}\beta^{j'} - \alpha^i\beta^j)$$

for an appropriate ordering of the pairs  $(i, j)$ . It follows that  $\alpha^{i'}\beta^{j'} = \alpha^i\beta^j$  for some  $(i', j') \neq (i, j)$ , so  $\alpha^{d_0} = \beta^{c_0}$  for some  $(c_0, d_0) \neq (0, 0)$  with  $|c_0| \leq n-1$  and  $|d_0| \leq m-1$ . The first assumption implies that  $c_0 \neq 0$  and  $d_0 \neq 0$ , so we may assume without loss of generality that  $c_0 \geq 1$ .

Let  $e = \gcd(c_0, d_0)$  and set  $c = c_0/e$  and  $d = d_0/e$ . Then since  $(\alpha^e)^d = (\beta^e)^c$  with  $\gcd(c, d) = 1$  there is a unique  $\gamma \in K$  such that  $\gamma^c = \alpha^e$  and  $\gamma^d = \beta^e$ . Let  $q$  be an integer such that  $1 \leq q \leq 2mn/e$ . Then by the second assumption we have

$$0 = f^*(\alpha^{eq}, \beta^{eq}) = f^*(\gamma^{cq}, \gamma^{dq}),$$

and so  $f^*(X^c, X^d) \in K[X, X^{-1}]$  has zeros at  $X = \gamma^q$  for  $1 \leq q \leq 2mn/e$ . If these zeros are not distinct then for some  $1 \leq r \leq 2mn/e$  we have  $\gamma^r = 1$  and hence  $1 = \gamma^{cr} = \alpha^{er}$ , which violates the first assumption. Therefore  $f^*(X^c, X^d)$  has at least  $\lfloor 2mn/e \rfloor$  distinct zeros. On the other hand the degree of the rational function  $f^*(X^c, X^d)$  is at most  $(m-1)|c| + (n-1)|d|$ , and since  $|c| = |c_0/e| \leq (n-1)/e$  and  $|d| = |d_0/e| \leq (m-1)/e$  we have

$$(m-1)|c| + (n-1)|d| \leq 2(m-1)(n-1)/e < \lfloor 2mn/e \rfloor.$$

Therefore  $f^*(X^c, X^d) = 0$ . □

Let  $l \geq 1$  and recall that  $g_l(X, Y) = (X^l - 1)(Y^l - 1)$  is the polynomial associated to an  $l \times l$  square with lower left corner  $(0, 0)$ . The set  $V(g_l) \subset \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times$  of zeros of  $g_l$  is the union of the lines  $X = \zeta$  and  $Y = \zeta$  as  $\zeta$  ranges over the  $l$ th roots of 1. It follows from Lemma 3.3 that if we choose  $l$  appropriately (say  $l = (2mn)!$ ) then  $V(g_l) \supset V(I)$ . This need not imply that  $g_l$  is in  $I$ , but by Hilbert's Nullstellensatz [5, VII, Th. 14] we do have  $g_l^k \in I$  for some  $k \geq 1$ .

To show there exists  $l$  such that  $g_l \in I$  we use the theory of *primary decompositions* (see, e. g., chapters 4 and 7 of [1]). Let  $A$  be a commutative ring with 1. We say that the ideal  $Q \subset A$  is a *primary ideal* if whenever  $xy \in Q$  with  $x \notin Q$  there exists  $a \geq 1$  such that  $y^a \in Q$ . By the Hilbert basis theorem,  $\mathbb{C}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  is a Noetherian ring [1, Cor. 7.7]. Therefore there are primary ideals  $Q_1, \dots, Q_r$  in  $\mathbb{C}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  such that  $I = Q_1 \cap \dots \cap Q_r$  [1, Th. 7.13]. The radical ideal

$$P_i = \sqrt{Q_i} = \{f \in \mathbb{C}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}] : f^r \in Q_i \text{ for some } r \geq 1\}$$

of the primary ideal  $Q_i$  is automatically prime, and is called the prime *associated* to  $Q_i$ . We may also characterize  $P_i$  as the smallest prime ideal containing  $Q_i$ .

Since  $I = Q_1 \cap \dots \cap Q_r$  we need to show that there exists  $l \geq 1$  such that  $g_l \in Q_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . Observe that if  $l | l'$  then  $g_l | g_{l'}$ . Therefore it is enough to show that for each  $i$  there is  $l_i$  such that  $g_{l_i} \in Q_i$ , since in that case we have  $g_l \in I$  with  $l = \text{lcm}\{l_1, \dots, l_r\}$ . To accomplish this we first restrict the possibilities for the prime ideals  $P_i$ .

Let  $q = (2mn)!$ . We observed above that  $g_q^k \in I$  for some positive integer  $k$ . Since  $P_i \supset Q_i \supset I$  this implies that  $g_q^k \in P_i$ . Therefore some irreducible factor of

$$g_q(X, Y)^k = \prod_{\zeta^q=1} (X - \zeta)^k (Y - \zeta)^k$$

lies in the prime ideal  $P_i$ . It follows that  $X - \zeta \in P_i$  or  $Y - \zeta \in P_i$  for some  $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}^\times$  such that  $\zeta^q = 1$ .

Assume without loss of generality that  $X - \zeta \in P_i$ . Then  $P_i$  contains the prime ideal  $(X - \zeta)$  generated by the irreducible polynomial  $X - \zeta$ . If  $P_i \neq (X - \zeta)$  let  $h$  be an element of  $P_i$  which is not in  $(X - \zeta)$ . By dividing  $X - \zeta$  into  $h(X, Y)$  we see that  $h(\zeta, Y) \in P_i$ . Since  $P_i$  is prime and  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed this implies that some linear factor  $Y - \alpha$  of  $h(\zeta, Y)$  is in  $P_i$ . Therefore  $P_i$  contains the maximal ideal  $(X - \zeta, Y - \alpha)$ , so in fact  $P_i = (X - \zeta, Y - \alpha)$ . Moreover, we must have  $\alpha \neq 0$  since  $Y$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{C}[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$ . It follows that if  $X - \zeta \in P_i$  then either  $P_i = (X - \zeta)$  or  $P_i = (X - \zeta, Y - \alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ .

We will make repeated use of the following elementary fact about primary ideals.

**Lemma 3.5** *Let  $Q$  be a primary ideal and set  $P = \sqrt{Q}$ . If  $gh \in Q$  with  $h \notin P$  then  $g \in Q$ .*

*Proof:* Since  $h \notin P$  we have  $h^a \notin Q$  for all  $a \geq 1$ . Therefore by the definition of primary ideal we have  $g \in Q$ .  $\square$

Assume now that  $P_i = (X - \zeta)$  with  $\zeta^q = 1$ . Then  $X^q - 1$  has a simple zero at  $X = \zeta$ . Therefore by Lemma 2.7 and Lemma 3.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{T(q)}(X, Y) &= f_T(X^q, Y^q) \\ &= (X^q - 1)(Y^q - 1)f_T^*(X^q, Y^q) \\ &= (X - \zeta)h(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

for some  $h \in \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ . Moreover we have  $h(\zeta, Y) \neq 0$ , since otherwise  $0 = f_T^*(\zeta^q, Y^q) = f_T^*(1, Y^q)$ , which would imply  $f_T^*(1, 1) = 0$ , contrary to Lemma 3.2. Therefore  $h \notin P_i = (X - \zeta)$ . It follows by Lemma 3.5 that  $X - \zeta \in Q_i$ , and hence that  $g_q \in Q_i$ .

Now assume  $P_i = (X - \zeta, Y - \alpha)$ . If  $\alpha$  is an  $r$ th root of 1 for some  $r \geq 1$  then  $X^{qr} - 1$  has a simple zero at  $X = \zeta$  and  $Y^{qr} - 1$  has a simple zero at  $Y = \alpha$ . As in the previous case this implies

$$\begin{aligned} f_{T(qr)}(X, Y) &= (X^{qr} - 1)(Y^{qr} - 1)f_T^*(X^{qr}, Y^{qr}) \\ &= (X - \zeta)(Y - \alpha)h(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

for some  $h \in \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ . Since  $f_T^*(\zeta^{qr}, \alpha^{qr}) = f_T^*(1, 1) \neq 0$ , we have  $h(\zeta, \alpha) \neq 0$ , and hence  $h \notin P_i$ . Applying Lemma 3.5 we get  $(X - \zeta)(Y - \alpha) \in Q_i$ , and hence  $g_{qr} \in Q_i$ . If  $\alpha$  is not a root of 1 we may choose  $r \geq 1$  so that  $f_T^*(\zeta^{qr}, \alpha^{qr}) = f_T^*(1, \alpha^{qr}) \neq 0$ , since  $f_T^*(1, 1) \neq 0$  implies that  $f_T^*(1, Y)$  has only finitely many zeros. Then  $X^{qr} - 1$  has a simple zero at  $X = \zeta$  and  $Y^{qr} - 1$  is nonzero at  $Y = \alpha$ . By an argument similar to those used above we have  $f_{T(qr)}(X, Y) = (X - \zeta)h(X, Y)$  for some  $h \in \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$  such that  $h(\zeta, \alpha) \neq 0$ . This implies  $h \notin P_i$ , so by Lemma 3.5 we get  $X - \zeta \in Q_i$ , and hence  $g_q \in Q_i$ .

We've shown now that for each  $1 \leq i \leq r$  there is  $l_i \geq 1$  such that  $g_{l_i} \in Q_i$ . Therefore we have  $g_l \in I$  with  $l = \text{lcm}\{l_1, \dots, l_r\}$ . It follows from Corollary 2.6 that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{C}$ -tiles an  $l \times l$  square. To prove that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -tiles a square it is sufficient to prove that  $g_l$  is in



the ideal  $I_0$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  generated by  $T(\mathbb{N})$ . Equivalently, we need to show that  $g_l$  is in the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -span of the set

$$\mathcal{E} = \{X^i Y^j f_{T(k)} : i, j, k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \geq 1\}.$$

We have shown that  $g_l$  is in the  $\mathbb{C}$ -span of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Since  $g_l$  and the elements of  $\mathcal{E}$  are all in  $\mathbb{Q}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$ , and

$$\mathbb{C}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}] \cong \mathbb{Q}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}] \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C},$$

it follows immediately that  $g_l$  is in the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -span of  $\mathcal{E}$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6** *Let  $T$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted tile made up of rectangles whose corners all have rational coordinates. Assume that the weighted area of  $T$  is not zero. Then there exists a positive integer  $w$  such that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles a square with weight  $w$ .*

*Proof:* By Theorem 3.1 we know that  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -tiles a square  $R$ , so there are rational numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and tiles  $T_1, \dots, T_n$ , each a translation of some  $T(k_i) \in T(\mathbb{N})$ , such that  $R = a_1 T_1 + \dots + a_n T_n$ . Let  $w \geq 1$  be a common denominator for  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ . Then  $wR = wa_1 T_1 + \dots + wa_n T_n$ , and  $wa_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Therefore  $T(\mathbb{N})$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles  $wR$ .  $\square$

## 4 Tiling with integer weights

Let  $T$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted lattice tile, and assume that the weighted area of  $T$  is not zero. By Corollary 3.6 we know that  $T$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiles a square with weight  $w$  for some positive integer  $w$ . We wish to find necessary and sufficient conditions for  $T$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetile a square with weight 1. To express these conditions we need a definition. Given  $\mu \in \mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\}$  we say that two lattice squares  $S_{ij}$  and  $S_{i'j'}$  belong to the same  $\mu$ -slope class if the line joining their centers has slope  $\mu$ . The tile  $T$  can be decomposed into a sum  $T = C_1 + \dots + C_k$  of lattice tiles such that for each  $i$  the unit lattice squares which make up  $C_i$  all belong to the same  $\mu$ -slope class.

**Proposition 4.1** *Let  $T$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted lattice tile and let  $n$  be a positive integer. Let  $c$  and  $d$  be relatively prime integers and set  $\mu = -c/d$ . Then the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  all have weighted area divisible by  $n$  if and only if  $f_T$  is an element of the ideal  $((X^d - Y^c)(X - 1)(Y - 1), n(X - 1)(Y - 1))$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$ .*

*Proof:* The  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  all have weighted area divisible by  $n$  if and only if we can write  $T = T_1 + nT_2$ , where  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted lattice tiles such that the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T_1$  all have weighted area zero. Write the decomposition of  $T_1$  into its  $\mu$ -slope classes as  $T_1 = C_1 + \dots + C_k$ . Since  $\mu = -c/d$  with  $c$  and  $d$  relatively prime, the lattice squares  $S_{ij}$  and  $S_{i'j'}$  are in the same  $\mu$ -slope class if and only if  $S_{i'j'}$  is the translation

of  $S_{ij}$  by  $(dr, -cr)$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore if  $C_t$  is the  $\mu$ -slope class of  $T_1$  containing  $S_{ij}$  we have

$$f_{C_t}(X, Y) = g(X^d Y^{-c}) X^i Y^j (X - 1)(Y - 1)$$

for some  $g \in \mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}]$ . Since the weighted area of  $C_t$  is zero we see that  $0 = f_{C_t}^*(1, 1) = g(1)$ , which implies  $X - 1 \mid g(X)$ . It follows that  $(X^d Y^{-c} - 1)(X - 1)(Y - 1)$  divides  $f_{C_t}$  for  $1 \leq t \leq k$ , and hence also that  $(X^d Y^{-c} - 1)(X - 1)(Y - 1)$  divides  $f_{T_1}$ . Conversely, if  $(X^d Y^{-c} - 1)(X - 1)(Y - 1)$  divides  $f_{T_1}$ , it is easy to check that the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T_1$  all have weighted area zero. It follows that the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  all have area divisible by  $n$  if and only if we can write

$$f_T(X, Y) = (X^d Y^{-c} - 1)(X - 1)(Y - 1)h_1(X, Y) + n(X - 1)(Y - 1)h_2(X, Y)$$

for some  $h_1, h_2 \in \mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$ . Since  $Y^c$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  this is equivalent to  $f_T \in ((X^d - Y^c)(X - 1)(Y - 1), n(X - 1)(Y - 1))$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $T$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -weighted lattice tile. Then  $T$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiles a square if and only if the following two conditions hold:*

1. *The weighted area of  $T$  is not zero.*
2. *For every  $\mu \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  the gcd of the weighted areas of the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  is 1.*

*Proof:* Let  $T$  be a tile which satisfies conditions 1 and 2. To show that  $T$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiles a square it is sufficient by Corollary 3.6 to show that  $T(\mathbb{N}) \cup \{wR\}$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles a square, where  $R$  is an  $l \times l$  square and  $l, w$  are positive integers. Let  $S = S_{00}$  be the unit lattice square with lower left corner  $(0, 0)$ . If  $T(\mathbb{N}) \cup \{wS\}$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles an  $a \times a$  square then by rescaling we see that  $T(\mathbb{N}) \cup \{wR\}$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles an  $la \times la$  square. Therefore it is sufficient to show that  $T(\mathbb{N}) \cup \{wS\}$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiles a square. Let  $J$  be the ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  generated by  $\{f_{T(k)} : k \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{w(X - 1)(Y - 1)\}$ . By Corollary 2.6 it is sufficient to show that  $g_l \in J$  for some  $l \geq 1$ .

By the Hilbert basis theorem  $\mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  is a Noetherian ring. Therefore the ideal  $J$  has a primary decomposition  $J = Q_1 \cap \dots \cap Q_t$ . We need to show that there exists  $l \geq 1$  such that  $g_l \in Q_i$  for all  $i$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3.1 it is enough to show that for each  $i$  there is  $l_i \geq 1$  such that  $g_{l_i} \in Q_i$ . Let  $P_i = \sqrt{Q_i}$  be the prime associated to  $Q_i$ , and suppose  $w \notin P_i$ . Then since  $w(X - 1)(Y - 1) \in Q_i$ , by Lemma 3.5 we see that  $(X - 1)(Y - 1) = g_1$  is in  $Q_i$ . If  $w \in P_i$  then since  $P_i$  is a prime ideal it follows that  $P_i$  contains a prime integer  $p$  which divides  $w$ , and hence that  $P_i \cap \mathbb{Z} = p\mathbb{Z}$ .

For  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  let  $\bar{f} \in \mathbb{F}_p[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  be the reduction of  $f$  modulo  $p$ , where  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is the field with  $p$  elements. Let  $\bar{P}_i$  be the ideal in  $\mathbb{F}_p[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  consisting of the reductions modulo  $p$  of the elements of  $P_i$ . Since  $p \in P_i$  the ideal  $\bar{P}_i$  is prime. Let  $\bar{J} \subset \mathbb{F}_p[X^{\mathbb{Z}}, Y^{\mathbb{Z}}]$  be the ideal consisting of the reductions modulo  $p$  of the elements of  $J$ . Then  $\bar{J}$  is generated by  $\{\bar{f}_{T(k)} : k \geq 1\}$ . Since  $P_i \supset J$ , we have  $\bar{P}_i \supset \bar{J}$ .

Let  $K$  be an algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  and let  $V(\overline{J}) \subset K^\times \times K^\times$  be the set of common zeros of the elements of  $\overline{J}$ . Let  $m$  be the  $X$ -degree of  $\overline{f}_T$ , let  $n$  be the  $Y$ -degree of  $\overline{f}_T$ , and define  $\overline{\Upsilon} \subset K^\times \times K^\times$  by

$$\overline{\Upsilon} = \{\zeta \in K^\times : \zeta^k = 1 \text{ for some } 1 \leq k \leq 2mn\}.$$

**Lemma 4.3**  $V(\overline{J}) \subset (K^\times \times \overline{\Upsilon}) \cup (\overline{\Upsilon} \times K^\times)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $(\alpha, \beta) \in V(\overline{J})$  and suppose neither  $\alpha$  nor  $\beta$  is in  $\overline{\Upsilon}$ . Then for  $1 \leq k \leq 2mn$  we have

$$0 = \overline{f}_{T(k)}(\alpha, \beta) = \overline{f}_T(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = (\alpha^k - 1)(\beta^k - 1)\overline{f}_T^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k).$$

Since  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  aren't in  $\overline{\Upsilon}$  this implies that  $\overline{f}_T^*(\alpha^k, \beta^k) = 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 2mn$ . Therefore by Lemma 3.4 there are relatively prime integers  $c, d$  with  $c \geq 1$  and  $d \neq 0$  such that  $\overline{f}_T^*(X^c, X^d) = 0$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the quotient ring  $\mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]/(X^d - Y^c)$ , and let  $x, y$  denote the images of  $X, Y$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $x$  and  $y$  are units in  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfying  $x^d = y^c$  with  $\gcd(c, d) = 1$ , so there is  $z = x^a y^b$  in  $\mathcal{A}^\times$  such that  $x = z^c$  and  $y = z^d$ . Therefore the image of  $\overline{f}_T^*$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is given by  $\overline{f}_T^*(x, y) = \overline{f}_T^*(z^c, z^d)$ , which equals zero since  $\overline{f}_T^*(X^c, X^d) = 0$ . It follows that  $X^d - Y^c$  divides  $\overline{f}_T^*$ , and hence that  $f_T^*$  is in the ideal  $(X^d - Y^c, p)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$ . Therefore  $f_T = (X - 1)(Y - 1)f_T^*$  is in the ideal

$$((X^d - Y^c)(X - 1)(Y - 1), p(X - 1)(Y - 1))$$

in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$ . Proposition 4.1 now implies that every  $\mu$ -slope class of  $T$  has area divisible by  $p$ . This violates condition 2 of the theorem, so we have a contradiction.  $\square$

Set  $q = (2mn)!$  and let  $V(\overline{g}_q) \subset K^\times \times K^\times$  be the set of zeros of  $\overline{g}_q$ . Since  $X^q - 1$  has zeros at all elements of  $\overline{\Upsilon}$ , we have  $V(\overline{g}_q) \supset (K^\times \times \overline{\Upsilon}) \cup (\overline{\Upsilon} \times K^\times)$ . Therefore Lemma 4.3 implies  $V(\overline{g}_q) \supset V(\overline{J})$ . Since  $\overline{P}_i \supset \overline{J}$  we have  $V(\overline{J}) \supset V(\overline{P}_i)$ , and hence  $V(\overline{g}_q) \supset V(\overline{P}_i)$ . As in Section 3 Hilbert's Nullstellensatz implies that  $\overline{g}_q^k \in \overline{P}_i$  for some  $k \geq 1$ . Since  $\overline{P}_i$  is prime and

$$\overline{g}_q(X, Y)^k = (X^q - 1)^k(Y^q - 1)^k$$

we have either  $X^q - 1 \in \overline{P}_i$  or  $Y^q - 1 \in \overline{P}_i$ . It follows that  $P_i$  contains one of the ideals  $(X^q - 1, p)$  or  $(Y^q - 1, p)$ . We may assume without loss of generality that  $P_i \supset (X^q - 1, p)$ .

By [1, Prop. 7.14] we have  $Q_i \supset P_i^u$  for some  $u \geq 1$ . Therefore it is enough to prove that for every  $u \geq 1$  there is  $l \geq 1$  such that  $g_l \in P_i^u$ . Let  $t$  be a positive integer. Expanding  $X^{qt} - 1$  in powers of  $X^q - 1$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} X^{qt} - 1 &= -1 + ((X^q - 1) + 1)^t \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^t \binom{t}{j} (X^q - 1)^j. \end{aligned}$$

If we choose  $t$  to be divisible by a large power of  $p$  then for small values of  $j \geq 1$  the binomial coefficient  $\binom{t}{j}$  is divisible by a large power of  $p$ . Thus every term in this expansion is divisible either by a large power of  $p$  or a large power of  $X^q - 1$ . It follows that there exists  $t \geq 1$  such that  $X^{qt} - 1 \in (X^q - 1, p)^u$ . Since  $P_i^u \supset (X^q - 1, p)^u$  we get  $g_{qt} \in P_i^u$ , as required.

Assume conversely that  $T$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiles a square. Then the weighted area of  $T$  is clearly not equal to zero, so condition 1 of Theorem 4.2 is satisfied. We need to show that for every  $\mu \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  the gcd of the weighted areas of the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  is equal to 1. If we knew that the scale factors and the coordinates of the translation vectors used in shapetiling the square were all in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , or even in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , we could prove this using polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$ . Since we have no right to make this assumption, we need to work in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$ .

We may assume that the square which is shapetiled by  $T$  is  $S = S_{00}$ , the unit square with lower left corner  $(0, 0)$ . We have then  $S = a_1 T_1 + \cdots + a_k T_k$ , where  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  and each  $T_i$  is a translation of some  $T(\rho_i)$ . Let  $p$  be prime and suppose that for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  the areas of the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  are all divisible by  $p$ . Let  $c, d$  be integers such that  $\gcd(c, d) = 1$  and  $\mu = -c/d$ . Let  $\bar{f}_T \in \mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$  be the reduction of  $f_T$  modulo  $p$ , and for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  let  $\bar{f}_{T_i} \in \mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$  be the reduction of  $f_{T_i}$ . Then by Proposition 4.1 we see that  $(X^d - Y^c)(X - 1)(Y - 1)$  divides  $\bar{f}_T$  (in  $\mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{Z}, Y^\mathbb{Z}]$ , and hence also in  $\mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}]$ ). Therefore by Lemma 2.7 and Lemma 2.4 we see that  $\bar{f}_{T_i}$  is divisible by

$$(X^{\rho_i d} - Y^{\rho_i c})(X^{\rho_i} - 1)(Y^{\rho_i} - 1).$$

Define a ring homomorphism  $\Psi : \mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{R}, Y^\mathbb{R}] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[X^\mathbb{R}]$  by setting  $\Psi(f) = f(X^c, X^d)$ . Since  $\Psi(X^{\rho_i d} - Y^{\rho_i c}) = 0$ , the divisibility relation from the preceding paragraph implies that  $\Psi(\bar{f}_{T_i}) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . On the other hand, since  $\bar{f}_S = \bar{g}_1 = (X - 1)(Y - 1)$ , we have

$$\Psi(\bar{f}_S) = X^{c+d} - X^c - X^d + 1,$$

which is nonzero since  $c$  and  $d$  are nonzero. Since  $S = a_1 T_1 + \cdots + a_k T_k$  we have  $\bar{f}_S = \bar{a}_1 \bar{f}_{T_1} + \cdots + \bar{a}_k \bar{f}_{T_k}$  with  $\bar{a}_i \in \mathbb{F}_p$ , which gives a contradiction. Therefore the areas of the  $\mu$ -slope classes of  $T$  can't all be divisible by  $p$ , so condition 2 is satisfied. This completes the proof of Theorem 4.2.  $\square$

**Example 4.4** Let  $T$  be the lattice tile pictured in Figure 2a. Since  $T$  has area  $4 \neq 0$ , it follows from Theorem 3.1 that  $T$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -shapetiles a square. But since the nonempty 1-slope classes of  $T$  both have area 2, Theorem 4.2 implies that  $T$  does not  $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetile a square.

**Example 4.5** Let  $a, b, c, d$  be positive integers with  $a > c$  and  $b > d$ . We construct a lattice tile  $T$  by removing a  $c \times d$  rectangle from the upper right corner of an  $a \times b$  rectangle, as in Figure 2b. The area of  $T$  is  $ab - cd > 0$ , so the first condition of Theorem 4.2 is satisfied. If  $\mu > 0$  there is a  $\mu$ -slope class of  $T$  consisting of just the

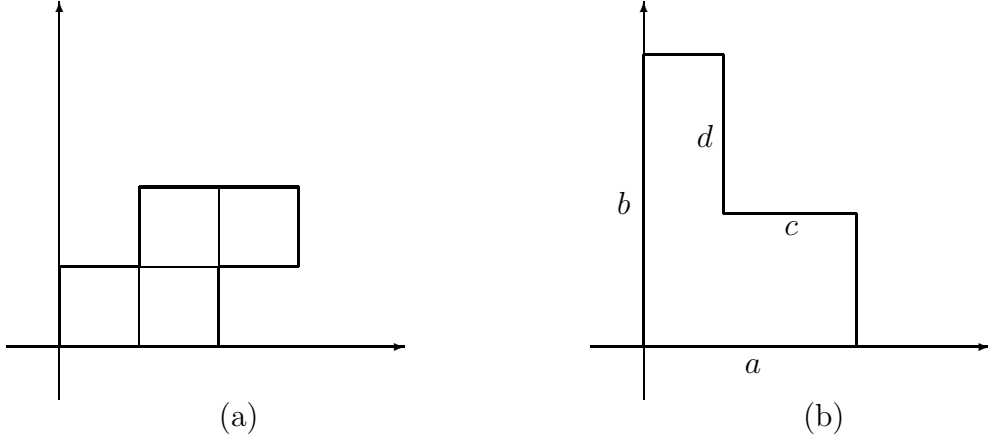


Figure 2: Two tiles

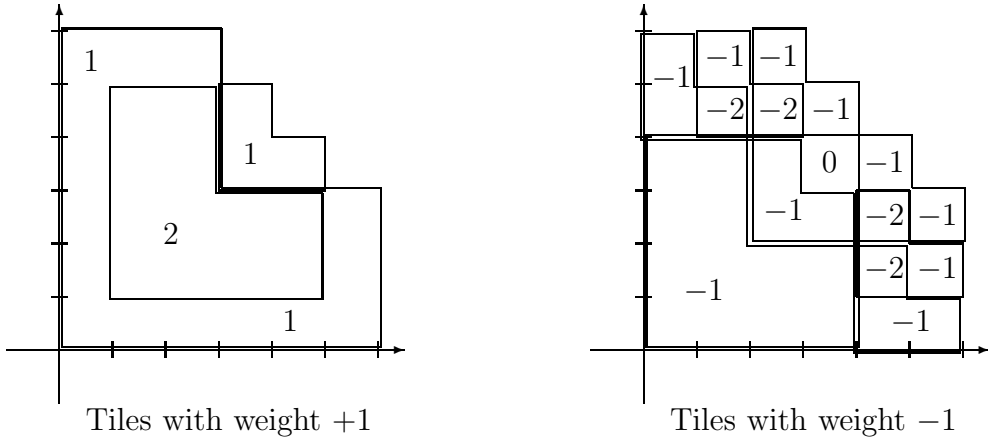


Figure 3: A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiling of a square

upper left corner square, while if  $\mu < 0$  there is a  $\mu$ -slope class of  $T$  consisting of just the lower left corner square. In either case  $T$  has a  $\mu$ -slope class whose area is 1. Therefore the second condition of Theorem 4.2 is also satisfied, so  $T$   $\mathbb{Z}$ -shapetiles a square.

**Example 4.6** The simplest case of Example 4.5 occurs when  $a = b = 2$  and  $c = d = 1$ . In this case we have  $f_T(X, Y) = (1+X+Y)(X-1)(Y-1)$ . A straightforward calculation shows that

$$XYg_3(X, Y) = (X^3Y^3 - X^2Y^2 - X^4 - X^4Y - X^4Y^2 - Y^4 - XY^4 - X^2Y^4)f_T(X, Y) \\ + (XY - 1)f_{T(2)}(X, Y) + f_{T(3)}(X, Y).$$

This gives the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -tiling of a  $3 \times 3$  square with lower left corner  $(1, 1)$  depicted in Figure 3. The left side of Figure 3 has tiles with weight 1 and the right side has tiles with weight  $-1$ . The total weights of the tiles covering each region are indicated.

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